

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
PUBLIC SESSION
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2012
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 7: 01p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr., Council President Kelly Porter (Late), Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, City Treasurer, Vincent Jones, City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Stephenson

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned to approve the agenda with the following modifications. Councilmember Simms requested that the February Public Session Meeting Minutes be tabled for corrections. It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Higgs. The motion carried.

1.1.5. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

- It was motioned by Councilmember Stephenson and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, April 2, 2012. Councilmember Higgs stated that his name was not listed as being in attendance of the meeting. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved with the noted correction.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, April 9, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Feggans Center Public Hearing meeting minutes for Monday, April 16, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the FY2013 Budget Public Hearing meeting minutes for Monday, April 23, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin to approve Comcast Franchise Public Hearing Session meeting minutes for Monday, April 23, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

- N/A

3. LEGISLATION

3.1. Ordinance O-12-14 FY2011-2012 Budget Amendment for Public Works

Ordinance O-12-14 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012 and the first reading was conducted. The second reading was held on Monday, May 14, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve Ordinance O-12-14. The motion carried. The Ordinance was unanimously approved.

3.2. Ordinance O-12-15 FY 2011-2012 Mid-Year Budget Amendment 2nd Reading. Ordinance O-12-15 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012 and the first was conducted. The second reading was held on Monday, May 14, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin. The motion carried. The Ordinance was unanimously approved.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Mayor's Report:

- This year has been the best year in working with the Council in moving the agenda forward.
- He stated that the Council worked diligently on Saturday, May 12, 2012 on the FY2013 Proposed Budget. He stated they stayed for almost eight hours.
- He stated that the residents and staff should be proud of the Council for their hard work.

- He stated we are working very hard in pushing the Feggans Center project forward. He stated that we advertised for the Request for Qualification (RFQ) on April 7, 2012.
- He stated that the City Administrator, Mr. Jones, City Treasurer, Mr. Ashton and the Public Works Director, Mr. Thompson will be review the proposal and provide a recommendation to the City Council on June 4, 2012.
- He stated this will be the most expensive development in the city.
- He stated we did not have any negative articles in the paper and it is because of the Council. He said this is a preview of speech in September.
- He stated that he is very proud with the budget process, as the department heads worked diligently to present a quality package to work from. It says a lot about the Government, staff and the Council with a spirit of cooperation.
- He welcomed Councilmember Higgs back and thanked him for keeping us together in a peaceful manner.
- He stated that in the month of April we held the Autism Conference. He thanked Councilmember Higgs, Councilmember Raynor, Councilmember Simms and Councilmember Hardy for the cooperation while attending the conference.
- He stated that on Friday, May 11, 2012 the UMD Health Summit was held with 32 students from Fairmount Heights and Central High School each. Along with 30 seniors from Seat Pleasant. It was groundbreaking.
- We held our first conference 3 years ago here and it grew to the Activity Center and this year UMD
- He stated that we saved three lives at the Life Simple 7 and two lives on last week as it relates to diabetes.
- He stated that the Feggans Center/City Center is the largest green project in the State. It is consistent with the Governor and the President's Green initiatives. We have an opportunity to be recognized by the Governor on the Private, Public, Partnership, as we will be the lead for a population of 10,000 and under.
- He stated that he attended a luncheon held by Congressman Hoyer and they spoke highly about Seat Pleasant throughout his speech. He stated a tremendous leader has recognized Seat Pleasant and we should be proud.
- He stated that we are setting the foundation for those after us to build and carry it forward.

4.2. Kelly Porter, Council President Report:

- Council President Porter stated that his monthly report is on the information stand.

- Council President Porter wants to keep the Fire Department on the forefront with citizens concerns as far as keeping the Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Station in the City.

4.3 Kevin Brenner, Chief-Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department

- Chief Brenner was absent from the Public Session and no report was submitted.

4.4. City Administrator – Vincent E. Jones

- He stated that we have been pretty busy in the month of April on the budget and Seat Pleasant Day. He thanked the Council and staff for their work.
- He stated the work in front of City Hall being conducted by Pepco is due to a break in the line. They are expecting it to take another two weeks.
- He stated that we had 20 people attend two different workshops last week and we have received nine application on the WACIF Home Improvement grant/loan
- We had received an e-mail stating they have additional funding and two residents can participate with a smaller program
- He stated the lights in City Hall will be changed out in June
- He stated that we had two responses from the Feggans Center RFQ. He stated that we have an RFP for the audit and copiers due as well.
- He stated that the Police Department Community Open House will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012 from 10:00am-3:00pm at the Police Department.
- He stated that the unfortunate incident of a resident on Seat Pleasant Drive was determined to be a suspicious death. It is being investigated by the Prince George's County Police Department.

4.5. Finance Department- Robert Ashton, Treasurer

- He stated that there is a tax credit for Disabled veterans. He will be submitting more information in the next newsletter.
- He stated that we are improving our budget process.
- He stated that the internal audit responses will be reviewed on May 17, 2012
- He stated that the City has a double AA credit rating. This is because of how we handle our surplus. The rating is the second best rating, which means every 1 million dollars you are borrowing it will allow you to save about 5,000 in interest.
- He stated the interest is what you pay when you borrow money. He stated that when we purchased the police cars in 2008, we receive a 3.2% rate while the rates were still at 6%.

- We received a 1% rate for the Public Works vehicle purchase. The banks look at our finances. Our numbers are really good.
- We are leveraging out to create assets for the future. He stated that he will put the information in the newsletter to better articulate.
- He thanked Councilmember Porter, Councilmember Simms and Councilmember Higgs for meeting with him when they received the budget and not sitting still.
- He thanked Councilmember Hardy for the series of meetings with the suggestions that will be reflected in the budget.

4.6. Police Department – Samuel Prue, Chief of Police

- Chief Prue was absent from the Public Session on Monday, May 14, 2012. He submitted his report in writing.

4.7. Public Works Department- Johnny Thompson, Director of Public Works

- Mr. Thompson was absent from the Public Session on Monday, May 14, 2012. He submitted his report in writing.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

- Mr. Johnny Coleman, 12010 Chesterton Dr, Upper Marlboro, MD,
- 1. He stated we need to come up with to the next level in involving the kids in an Easter egg hunt. He stated it was held in the park in 2001. He thanked the Mayor for the proclamation. He hopes the Council considers the Easter egg hunt in the next budget.
- Eugene F. Kennedy, 6110 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant, MD,
- He congratulated the Mayor and Council on the find job they are doing. He stated Park & Planning are the richest Department in the County. He would like for them to reconsider a Recreation Council.
- He stated that if we engage the children they will respect and work with us,

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1 None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1. None

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1. Police Department Open House, Saturday, May 19, 2012, Seat Pleasant Police Department 6264 Central Avenue, Seat Pleasant, MD from 10:00am-3:00pm

- 8.2. Community Clean Up, Saturday, May 19, 2012 in Wards 1 and 2 from 7:00am-2:00pm
- 8.3. Ward II Crime Prevention Training, Wednesday, May 23, 2012, Pleasant Homes Community Center, 6810 Greig St., Seat Pleasant, MD from 6:00pm-8:00pm
- 8.4. Community Clean Up, Saturday, May 26, 2012 in Wards 3 and 4 from 7:00am-2:00pm
- 8.5. Community Clean Up, Saturday, June 2, 2012 in Ward 5 from 7:00am-2:00pm
- 8.6. Walk to Excellence, Saturday, June 2, 2012, Goodwin Park, 9:00am-11:00am LEAVING CITY HALL at 9:00am
- 8.7. Kaiser Weight of the Nation Video Screening, Prince George's Community College at 7:00pm

9. ADJOURN- The meeting was adjourned at 8:24p.m.

Submitted by,


Dashaun N. Lanham
City Clerk